Module Title | Foundation Knowledge and Core Skills of Intensive Care Nursing
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Level of Learning | 9 NFQ
Pre-requisite course | Primary degree or equivalent
ECTS Credits | 10
Module Coordinator | Ms Mary O'Neill
Mr. Paul Mahon
Module Lecturers | Ms. Alice O'Leary, Nurses, Medical and Allied Health Professionals who manage the patient in the intensive care department will be included at appropriate stages in the module.

Rationale of Module
The care of the critically ill patient is becoming increasingly more complex, more demanding. Intensive care nurses working in this rapid paced environment need evidenced based information to enable them to make informed decisions and nursing diagnosis that enhances clinical practice and positively impact their patients, from early detection or symptom management to intervention that affect survival. Intensive Care Nursing is a specialist area of practice, and the role of the nurse is complex and multifaceted requiring specialist knowledge and skills.

Module Aims
This module aims to provide the student with the foundation knowledge, skills and attitudes necessary to acquire competence in nursing patients in the intensive care setting and it focuses on enabling students to perform a comprehensive health assessment and prioritise, implement and evaluate appropriate nursing care.

Learning Outcomes
On successful completion of this module, the student will be able to:
- Critically evaluate and demonstrate the holistic assessment of the patient presenting with organ failure
- Critically explore the aetiology and path physiology of organ failure in critical illness
- Critically evaluate the psycho-social impact of critical illness on the patient and family
- Identify and critically evaluate relevant research, including national and international guidelines, in order to promote evidence-based practice within the intensive care setting
- Synthesise knowledge and create responses to problems that develop and/or redefine existing practice within intensive care setting.
- Critically evaluate and reflect on the professional role of the intensive care nurse within the inter-disciplinary settings and other members of the multi-disciplinary team.

Indicative Syllabus
- Overview of intensive care nursing
- Psycho-social concepts of the intensive care environment
- Fluids and Electrolytes requirements in the critically ill patient
- Cardiovascular Assessment and alteration in Cardiovascular function
• Respiratory Assessment and alterations in Respiratory function
• Neurological Assessment and alterations in Neurological function
• Nutritional support of the critically ill patient
• Death and dying in the intensive care unit

Teaching Learning Activities

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hours</th>
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<tr>
<td>Contact time (face to face, online tuition, discussion forum, group work, PBL) 36</td>
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<tr>
<td>Independent Learning 124</td>
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<td>Assessment preparation 90</td>
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<td>Total 250</td>
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<tr>
<th>Examination/Assessment Method</th>
<th>Type of Assessment (Continuous/Terminal)</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Written Nursing Assessment</td>
<td>Continuous</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Clinical Case Study</td>
<td>Terminal</td>
<td>90%</td>
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Examination/Assessment Method

**Indicative Reading**


**Recommended Journals**

- American Journal of Critical Care
- British Journal of Cardiac Nursing
- Critical Care Medicine
- Critical Care Nurse
Critical Care Nursing Clinics of North America
Critical Care Nursing Quarterly
Dimensions of Critical Care Nursing
Evidence Based Nursing
Heart and Lung
Intensive & Critical Care Nursing
Journal of Advanced Nursing

Journal of Clinical Nursing
Journal of Infection Control nursing
Nursing in Critical Care
Nursing Ethics
Nursing Older People
Professional Nurse

Recommended Wed-sites
www.nice.org.uk
ww.survivesepsis.org
www.ino.ie
www.nursingboard.ie
www.ecglibrary.com
www.mdchoice.com/xray/ctscan/ct
www.mdchoice.com
www.irishheart.ie
www.trauma.org
www.brit

Additional reading material will be provided by individual lecturers

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